

Attorney Docket No. P104-US

REMARKS

Claims 1-60 are pending. Claims 15-60 are indicated as being allowable.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 14 were rejected; and claims 3 and 8-13 were objected to.

The indication of the allowable subject matter of claims 15-60 is appreciated.

REJECTION OF CLAIM 1

Independent claim 1 was rejected under 103(a) over Doherty (2003/0227677) taken with Doherty (6,201,521) in view of Pettitt (6,774,916). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As a background, the present invention is directed to methods and apparatus for transposing pixel-by-pixel data into bitplane data that are used for digital display systems.

Claim 1 expressly recites, among other features, the steps of loading a pixel data matrix of the image; delivering the rows of the matrix in parallel into a data converter; transposing, by the data converter, the pixel data matrix into a bitplane matrix following a bitplane format wherein matrix elements in one row of the matrix represent one pixel of the image; and sending the bitplane matrix into the memory cell array for actuating the micromirrors such that the image is produced by the micromirrors (emphasis added).

In contrast, the Doherty ('677) reference is directed to a method for compensating lamp variations and phase locking of free-free-running sequencer. The Doherty ('677) reference does NOT teach or suggest data conversion from pixel-by-pixel data to bitplane data.

The Doherty ('521) reference is directed to a method of addressing pixels of a spatial light modulator used in digital display systems. Specifically, as expressly illustrated in FIG. 3 to FIG. 6, the pixel array of the spatial light modulator is divided into sub-sets, each of which is provided with a reset-line (e.g. reset line 34 in FIG. 3). In accordance with the sub-set configuration of the pixel array, Doherty ('521) discloses a method for delivering bitplane data to the individual pixels in the sub-sets. Doherty ('521) does not teach or suggest a method of preparing bitplane data from pixel-by-pixel data, much less to say teaching or suggesting the method of claim 1 in this patent application.

The Pettitt reference does not remedy the deficiencies of the Doherty references ('677 and '521). Pettitt is directed to dithering method for mitigating contour in digital display systems. Pettitt does not teach or suggest a method for transposing pixel-by-pixel data into bitplane data.

Because the Doherty references ('677 and '521) and Pettitt reference, either individually or in any combination thereof, fail in teaching or suggesting all features of claim 1, claim 1, as well as claims 2-14 that depend from claim 1, is patentable over the Doherty references and Pettitt. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Attorney Docket No. P104-US

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are respectfully requested. In the event any fees are required in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 501516.

Respectfully submitted,



Gregory R. Muir
Attorney for Applicants,
Registration No. 35,293
Tel: (408) 737-8100

REFLECTIVITY, INC.
350 Potrero
Sunnyvale, CA 95054
Fax: (408) 737-8153